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Minutes

Takoma Park Public Safety Citizens Advisory Committee 28 October 2004

Members present	Members absent
Andy Kelemen, chair	Caroline Beckham
Michael Israel	Gayle Fisher-Stewart, vice chair
Buddy Daniels	Peter Kovar
Steve Cavallo	Wolfgang Mergner
	Larry Rubin
Guests	Cindy Creamer, Chief of Police
Rajat Sen	

The meeting was sparsely attended due to various members being busy with the coming elections and conflicts with other meetings.

Mr. Rajat Sen, a prospective member introduced himself.

Attached are the Agenda from this meeting as well as:

- the current roster of PSCAC;
- notes of interest;
- notes from the 20 October meeting with the Neighborhood Safety Contacts; and
- the SOSCA patrol report submitted by Steve.

Michael discussed that although there is some anecdotal evidence that pre-positioned or targeted patrol posts are effective as deterrents, Police departments are reluctant, however, to employ them because residents want to see police presence on the streets. It was again pointed out that the lack of crime plotting software in TPPD is a handicap in preventive patrolling.

It was decided that the next PSCAC meeting would be on 18 November to avoid it becoming a Thanksgiving turkey. It will be a joint meeting with the Safe Roadways Committee and the start of the meeting will overlap with the end of their meeting.

It was also decided to have a serious, educational four plus hour meeting in the February 05 time frame for Neighborhood Safety Contacts. It is to be an Emergency Preparedness "training" meeting with two invited speakers.

Outstanding items

The need to find good information, hopefully statistically valid regarding:

- The effectiveness of neighborhood patrols. Both Wolfgang and Gayle agreed to look around to find such studies or reports.
- Comparison between random patrols and static, pre-positioned patrol posts. Michael agreed to research this issue further.